FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 JULY 1986

Jordan

Closure of PLO Offices — A Jordanian Cabinet statement carried by PETRA-JNA announced Jordan's decision to close the PLO's "additional" offices in Jordan in response to the sharp criticisms of Jordan contained in the statement issued by Fatah's Revolutionary Council 19 June. The Fatah statement contravened the spirit of "cooperation and understanding" which Jordan is eager to preserve despite its differences with the PLO leadership and which was the basis for Jordan's agreement to permit the existence of additional offices that are not officially affiliated with the PLO and its institutions. The Cabinet added that in view of the contents of the Fatah statement and the "irresponsible, misleading utterances" by prominent Fatah members, Jordan finds itself "compelled" to close the additional offices because they are working for "the side which has chosen to pursue this negative approach toward Jordan." The Cabinet statement emphasized that Jordan will maintain its "firm pan-Arab policy" on the Palestinian issue and will continue to regard the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib said the decision was in the interests of Jordan's national security, adding that the closure applies to 25 Fatah offices but does not affect other PLO offices, *Sawt al-Sha'b* reported. Offices to be closed include those belonging to Force 17 and to Yasir 'Arafat and Khalil al-Wazir, the commander and deputy commander of Palestinian revolution forces, the paper disclosed. Those remaining open include offices belonging to the PLO, the PNC, and the Palestinian Liberation Army. Palestinian and Jordanian sources in Amman subsequently revealed that the Jordanian authorities have asked Al-wazir to leave Jordan within 48 hours, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Information Minister al-Khatib had stressed that the staff of the closed offices are free to remain in Jordan as private individuals, but that anyone threatening national security will be deported, MENA noted.

PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, currently in Austria, linked the decision with the "escalating Jordanian pressure" against the Palestinians. Speaking in an interview with Vienna television, 'Arafat also denounced the new Jordanian election law as "against the Palestinians and against Arab League resolutions," and accused Jordan of seeking to "buy the conscience of our people" through its "stupid" economic plan for the occupied territories. Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf said the Jordanian decision is no surprise and is the "inevitable result" of the policy pursued by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i's government, which is seeking to create an alternative PLO leadership, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin welcomed the Jordanian decision in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio, asserting that the closure of the offices will help reduce terrorism as the presence of 'Arafat's "terrorist bodies" in Amman had increased terrorist activity against Israel.

University Reform — Following King Husayn's 5 July letter to Prime Minister al-Rifa'i on the Al-Yarmuk University incidents, Amman television broadcast a reply from the prime minister, who promised that the government will take action "as soon as possible" to secure a "sound course" for the universities. Sources in Amman cited by KUNA predicted that the authorities will shortly appoint a new president for Al-Yarmuk University and dismiss several teachers there.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian offensive launched 8 July resulted in the "liberation" of an additional 40 sq km of Iraqi territory, IRNA announced, adding that approximately 1,500 Iraqi casualties were incurred. Citing a military report, Tehran radio stated that all enemy forces in the region beyond Mehran had been totally annihilated, and that communications between Iraqi units and headquarters have been completely severed. The radio later added that Iranian warplanes bombed Iraqi positions in the Mehran sector. The offensive is aimed at disrupting Iraqi troop transportation in the area, including traffic on the Badrah-Baghdad road, IRNA disclosed. Rebutting the Iranian claims, an Iraqi military source cited by INA said the new Iranian offensive had been crushed, with Iranian troops and reinforcements suffering huge losses.

In 7 July activity, Iraqi warplanes bombed Khark Island and hit a large maritime target off the Iranian coast, according to a military communique reported by Voice of the Masses radio. A large maritime target was hit in another raid later that evening, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA. As for ground activity the same day, a military spokesman cited by INA said that Iraqi forces wiped out an Iranian attack in Mehran after a "fierce" battle. In a summary of Iranian achievements since the start of the Mehran offensive, a military commander cited by IRNA said that Iran had gained full control of 27 heights in the region, and had "liberated" 250 sq km of Iranian territory.

Iran

A 15-kg bomb planted by "agents of world imperialism" exploded in a Tehran tea shop 8 July, injuring at least 37 people, IRNA announced.

Israel

Denial on POW Exchange — Defense Minister Rabin denied a report by the PLO agency WAFA that another PLO-Israeli POW exchange is imminent, according to *The Jerusalem Post*, which noted Rabin's assertion that the only Israeli prisoners in Arab hands are being held by the Lebanese Hizballah. The WAFA report, as reported by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, claimed that Fatah will release one Israeli POW and the bodies of several other IDF soldiers in return for the release of 1,650 Palestinian detainees.

Shin Bet Affair — The police will investigate the Shin Bet affair because the Cabinet cannot agree on the establishment of a

commission of inquiry, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told a Knesset committee in remarks reported by Jerusalem television. He revealed that he has already decided on the composition of the committee which will draw conclusions about the future in regard to the Shin Bet.

Lebanon

An "official source" cited by Beirut radio deplored the "surprising" campaign against the Syrian role in Beirut by "some quarters," stressing that the Syrian forces entered West Beirut and the areas around the Palestinian camps in response to a "national, Islamic, and governmental request." Meanwhile, Minister Nabih Birri said the Amal Movement wishes to exist unarmed in West Beirut, and that the movement is no longer concerned with West Beirut's security, the radio reported.

Syria-USSR

Defense Minister Mustafa Talas discussed Syrian-Soviet military cooperation during talks with the visiting first deputy commander in chief of the Soviet air defense forces, Damascus television reported, noting that the Syrian chief of staff and Air Force commanders also attended the meeting.

Sudan

Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi outlined his government's policies in a 7 July address to the constituent assembly, SUNA reported. Al-Mahdi said the new government will replace the country's laws based on Islamic Shari'ah with other legislation. The question of southern Sudan should be solved through a serious, businesslike dialogue, he said, adding that elections previously postponed for security reasons will be held in 10 southern constituencies. Meanwhile, a Sudanese paper cited by SUNA stated that Al-Mahdi will meet SPLA leader John Garang at the Addis Ababa OAU summit meeting set for 28 July.

Algeria

President Chadli Bendjedid underwent a successful operation 7 July, according to Algiers radio. He had earlier been treated for a slipped disc.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Najibullah Addresses Tribal Assembly in Kabul

LD072052 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, this afternoon took part in an assembly of the elders, leaders, and representatives of various tribes of Qandahar, Helmand, Oruzgan, and Zabol Provinces at the Storay Palace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and conferred with them about the present situation in the country and about establishing complete peace and security in the country.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that at the beginning of this great tribal assembly Qari Muhammad Amin Kandahari recited a few verses from the holy Koran and prayed for the prosperity of beloved Afghanistan and the well-being of our people under the leadership of the PDPA.

Comrade Najibullah expressed his pleasure at participating in the tribal assembly of the elders and representatives of the courageous people of the southern regions of the country and spoke in appreciation of the proud and lofty history of these regions and the outstanding famous struggling personalities who have displayed heroism and great deeds in that region.

Comrade Najibullah expressed confidence that the brave and courageous sons of Qandahar, Helmand, Oruzgan, and Zabol Provinces, shoulder to shoulder with other regions of revolutionary Afghanistan, will today, like their heroic forefathers, accept every sort of sacrifice and defend their honor, freedom, and independence and, until the end of their lives, wage a righteous struggle against imperialism and reaction and their mercenary agents who have unleashed an undeclared imperialist war against the people of our country.

In the course of his remarks, Comrade Najibullah once again emphasized national reconciliation and compromise with those of our compatriots who are living abroad in a miserable predicament and asked the participants in the assembly to do their best to convey the aspirations and humane aims of our revolutionary party and state to them and invite them to return as soon as possible to their beloved homeland to work and struggle for the prosperity and tranquillity of their people.

Comrade Najibullah said that our party and revolutionary state have taken all necessary measures to bring about a compromise and national reconciliation in our beloved Afghanistan and have completely authorized the elders and leaders of the people to convene assemblies aimed at halting the bloodshed and fratricide in the country, and to make patriotic efforts to maintain nationwide peace and security in the country.

PDPA Politburo Discusses Cadre Training, Education

LD032047 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] The regular session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo was held today. Issues about international party life, composition of the PDPA, and the circumstances of accepting [new members] in the party in 1985 were assessed at this session. It was emphasized that during this year the party ranks followed the process of its growth and consolidation and the network of the primary party organizations was further broadened and their effectiveness on all spheres of social life is increasing further.

The Politburo instructed all committees and party organizations to improve the social composition of candidates to the party by further accepting workers, peasants, tradesmen, soldiers, NCO's, members of the DYOA and DWOA; and to pay fundamental attention to the further creation of party organizations in villages.

The work of the DRA Ministry of Internal Affairs regarding the appointment and training of cadres also was considered. The Ministry of Internal Affairs was instructed to intensify its work of appointing and stationing of cadres in accordance with the PDPA's previous policy in consideration of the principles of worthiness, faithfulness to the aspirations of the April Revolution, the level of professional knowledge, and their organizational capability; and to pay further attention to the task of educating and training cadres of the Ministry of Internal Affairs with the spirit of patriotism, internationalism and faithfulness to the party and people, as well as enhancing the professional knowledge and expertise of Ministry of Internal Affairs personnel.

Moreover, the issues relating to the commencement of the activities of PDPA Central Committee's political enlightenment center, were assessed and it was pointed out the political enlightenment center will play an active role for securing progressive experience in the field of political and training work among various groups of the people, as well as mobilizing the training of cadres in accordance with the needs and demands of the present time. A provision on the activity of the political enlightenment center was then approved. At this Politburo session a number of other domestic and external issues were also considered.

Operations of Security Forces Detailed

LD062034 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Quoting a source in the country's security forces, a BIA correspondent reports that as a result of successful operations by the country's security forces that were carried out recently in the region of Kohigar District of Zarmal in order to crush the nest of the savage counterrevolutionaries, a number of these criminals -- including a number of their ringleaders -- Haji Abdul Qadir, Akhtar Muhammad and Sultan Muhammad [name indistinct] were crushed.

A DShK, a heavy machine gun, and a number of assorted weapons with their ammunition were seized by the security forces. During these operations a (?rest point) for the convoy of arms and ammunition of the counterrevolutionaries was completely destroyed and a number of these sold-out criminals --to dollars and rupees -- were [words indistinct].

Also, as result of the successful operations by the heroic Armed Forces of the country which were carried out in order to clean up

the regions of Shah Dost, [words indistinct] a number of the criminals were crushed. An anti-aircraft gun, a Chinese DShK with its spare parts, 69 rocket launcher shells, 28 recoilless gun shells, 44 boxes of Kalashinkov shells, medicine, propaganda papers and documents that prove their links to the reactionary imperialists' country were seized.

According to another report, recently, as a result of the successful operations by the country's security forces in the surroundings of the sub-district of Kalakan, Qara Bagh District, Kabul Province, a number of the counterrevolutionary elements including their ringleader, Barialay, who was famous for stealing, plundering, and murdering of innocent people and had disturbed the peaceful life of the toiling people of Kalakan, were punished for their shameful activities, and the noble people of that area were freed from their cruelty.

Mujahidin Leader Rabbani Holds Press Conference

LD062315 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2028 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Jeddah, 6 Jul (SPA) — One of the prominent leaders of the Afghan Mujahidin, Burhanuddin Rabbani, this afternoon held a news conference at the Conference Palace in Jeddah in which he spoke about the Afghan jihad against the Soviet occupation of the DRA territories, and their terrorist and criminal acts against the Muslim Afghan people. Burhanuddin opened his news conference with a speech in which he said: "Soviet aggression in Afghanistan is in reality a civilizational and ideological challenge to Islam and the Muslims. The Soviet onslaught in Afghanistan is in fact a prelude to marching on the Islamic world, combatting Muslims, and expanding the Soviet empire at the expense of the Islamic lands by taking possession of the countries' economy and resources."

He stated that when the Soviets failed in their military onslaught, thanks to the Afghan resistance, they began their political and propaganda moves. They made misleading claims against Islamic resistance in addition to their destructive military onslaught. They burned farms, abducted children, and transferred them to the Soviet Union. They attempted to turn the Afghan people into a communist people.

Burhanuddin added that in the face of these plots, Afghan resistance made a political counter move and sent a mujahidin delegation to the United States and France where the delegation claimed the Afghan seat at the United Nations.

Burhanuddin expressed his thanks and appreciation for the continuous backing from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and particularly at the present time, alluding to the fact that the Kingdom's embassies in Washington and France welcomed and hosted the Afghan delegation. This attention, he added, has left us with a memorable impression, and clearly indicates the honorable and constant stand of the officials in the Kingdom on Islamic issues. We in Afghanistan and the Afghan Muslim people in our predicament continuously experience the support from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: political, economic, and humanitarian.

Burhanuddin referred in his speech, to the Soviet propaganda trumpets which squirts out its venom against this tour, and said we do not bother with what the Soviets and their propaganda trumpets do because we know their lies and fabrications. He added that our attention was drawn by the fact that some of the sons of Afghanistan and friends of our march expressed doubts and apprehensions when they heard those trumpets; this is unwarranted and we assured them and told them there is no need for this. We also told them that their brothers who represented the mujahidin on this tour will not allow themselves or anyone else to change the course of their free Islamic Afghan resistance.

He said the delegation spoke to President Reagan with the dignity of the faithful, the pride of the mujahid, and with all honesty and clarity. The delegation stated that we do not allow anyone to offer any assurances to the Soviet Union that will harm our fate, noting that the delegation had explained that the Muslim Afghan people refuse to allow Afghanistan to become the stage for the struggle between the two giants and will not allow anyone to provide a political solution that is unacceptable to their cause.

The delegation also refuted, during the U.S. visit, the accusations made in the American papers by Arabs and Muslims who advocate terrorism. These accusations, he said, are false and unfounded; furthermore, the Afghan people do not allow anyone to be their guardian.

About the role of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its support for the Afghan cause, he said the Afghan mujahid undoubtedly feels that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is with him in his ordeal and his jihad and that he is not fighting on his own but that the government and people of the Kingdom fight with him against the unbelieving enemy.

As for various stances taken by (?numerous) organizations in Afghanistan, he said that the organizations of Islamic Jihad for the liberation of Afghanistan take a very strong stand before the usurping enemy and now control 80 percent of Afghanistan regions. This year when the Soviets tried to regain some fortified positions from the mujahidin, due to God's power they could not control any position and the Afghan mujahidin have this year achieved more victories than in previous years.

On his discussions with President Reagan and U.S. support for the Afghan mujahidin, Burhanuddin Rabbani said that the tour was not made in order to ask for support, but was an informative and political tour. We value the support we receive from our Muslim brothers including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The United States gives humanitarian aid to Pakistan for the Afghan refugees; we do not know the amount of this aid.

Answering a question about the indirect negotiations in Geneva to settle the Afghan issue, he said that there are two parties in the Afghan conflict: the Soviet aggressors and the Islamic Jihad organizations for the liberation of Afghanistan. Pakistan does not interfere in Afghanistan but has sustained 3 million Afghan refugees, and the Soviets are trying to involve Pakistan in the Afghan question. We thank Pakistan for sustaining the Afghan refugees; however, Pakistan cannot represent the mujahidin because the Afghan mujahidin represent the Afghan people. The

Soviets use delaying tactics and the brothers in Pakistan try to drive out the Soviet army from Afghanistan.

Replying to a question about the appointment of Najibullah instead of Babrak Karmal and the consequent military situation, he said this Soviet change indicates the political defeat of the Soviets in Afghanistan. The Soviets had killed Dawud and brought in Taraki, who did not succeed; then Taraki was killed, and Hafizullah was brought in, and they believed he could change the Islamic faith in Afghanistan; then came Babrak Karmal with his army to silence the voice of jihad and the Afghan resistance. He carried out a few theatrical measures such the consultative councils for the tribes and the local councils.

Najibullah, however, is not a politician but an intelligence man and a known executioner. The Soviets believe that this man being from a strong tribe is capable of gaining the confidence of some of the Afghan tribes; however, the tribes are united into an Islamic unity and this man began to change [words indistinct] indicating the failure of the Russians in Afghanistan. Last year the Soviet attack was very strong where the Soviets used two of the eight most powerful Soviet divisions supported by aircraft and heavy weapons. However, the Afghan mujahidin shot down 225 Soviet aircraft during the first 5 Christian months. In general, the Soviet losses have risen drastically during the current year.

Answering a question on the current situation in Afghanistan, Burhanuddin Rabbani said that the Soviets conducted several attacks on the Pakistani borders. This gives the impression that the Soviets are chasing the mujahidin beyond the borders; however, the fact is that the Afghan mujahidin are fighting the Soviets on their borders. Several aircraft were shot down, more than 400 soldiers were killed, and several hundreds were taken prisoners, including 17 officers.

On Afghanistan's demands for a seat in international organizations, he said there are efforts being made toward acquiring the vacant seat of Afghanistan at the Islamic countries' foreign ministers conference and also at the United Nations. The Soviets can not occupy Afghanistan easily, and if there were sizeable political and propaganda pressure, the Soviets would leave Afghanistan.

In reply to a question on the U.S.-USSR accord and its impact on the Afghani issue, he said that there is no doubt that the Soviets want to give America an advantage just as they gave an advantage to the British for control over the Indian subcontinent. The Soviets undertake expansionist operations every 10 or 20 years, as in Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Now they are trying to control Muslim Afghanistan. The accord is a trick. The United States and Europe realize the danger in the Soviets' attempts to control Afghanistan. This invasion might lead to a catastrophe for the West but there is an advantage which they give each other. [as heard] God willing, we will continue the jihad no matter what the cost.

Burhanuddin Rabbani was asked about the possibility of coexistence with the Government of Afghanistan if the Soviets withdraw. He said that the Afghan Government is a government that consists of Soviet generals; coexistence with a Marxist government is rejected and there can be no solution with the Marxist government.

In the course of his reply to a question about forming a government-in-exile and the extent of its success, he said that the idea was to create the government in the liberated territories but air defense delayed the implementation of this idea. If the Afghan mujahidin could find air defense weapons or artillery, then this can be realized.

About the numbers of the Soviet army in Afghanistan, he said that there are well over 230,000 soldiers, particularly along the northern borders of Afghanistan where they cross the border, kill, and then return. As for Karmal's army, it was 120,000. However only 20,000 are left. The rest were killed, captured, or deserted from the army and joined the mujahidin.

Cross-Border Fire Exchanged With Pakistan Troops

BK081213 Hong Kong AFP in English 1207 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] New Delhi, July 8 (AFP) — Indian and Pakistani troops have for the second time in a week exchanged fire along the Indo-Pakistan frontier in the disputed region of Kashmir, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported here on Tuesday. The news agency said in a dispatch from Jammu, the winter capital of the Indian-held portion of Kashmir, that intermittent gun battles that began on Monday night were continuing as the latest official reports reached Jammu on Tuesday morning. There were no casualties reported. Fire was exchanged in four areas on Monday night. Similar clashes were reported in three of these areas last Wednesday. The agency said Pakistani troops had dug trenches in Indian territory on Monday and then opened fire when the Indians objected.

Pakistani troops also damaged two canals, diverting the flow of one, which irrigates villages in Indian territory, to Pakistan's side of the frontier. The other canal feeds a hydro-electric power to India. The Pakistanis then occupied positions at the head of both canals.

Similar interference with the same canals in 1965 preceded a border war between India and Pakistan over Kashmir, possession which they have disputed since they gained independence in 1947, the agency said.

Three Killed Crossing Border From Pakistan

BK071413 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Three persons were killed in an encounter with the Border Security Force [BSF] in Anupgarh of Rajasthan early this morning. According to a BSF spokesman in New Delhi today five persons were trying to enter the country from the Pakistan side when they were challenged by the BSF. The other two ran back into Pakistan.

In another encounter with the BSF in the Khemkaran area yesterday, a notorious gold smuggler who entered India was killed. Three of his accomplices escaped back into Pakistan.

Gandhi Returns From Visit to Mauritius

BK060336 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, returned to New Delhi a short while ago after a 2-day visit to Mauritius. Earlier addressing a news conference in Port Louis yesterday, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said the idea of imposing sanctions against the racist Pretoria regime is to bring around South Africa to abolish apartheid and not to damage the interests of the member-states of the Commonwealth. He said a Commonwealth package will have to be prepared to help those countries which will be adversely affected by the sanctions. The issue will be examined at the mini-Commonwealth summit in London next month when the report of the eminent persons group is taken up for consideration.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi answered queries on a wide range of subjects from the situation in Punjab to the prospects of a settlement in Sri Lanka and relations with Pakistan.

He categorically rejected a correspondent's suggestion that India is helping the Tamil militants in Sri Lanka. Mr Gandhi said India is an open country and anyone, including the reporter, is free to see for himself if there is any camp for training militants. He also said the proposals recently received from Colombo to solve the ethnic issue have been passed onto the Tamil United Liberation Front for their evaluation and a decision will be taken in due course.

About Pakistan, the prime minister said the pace of progress in achieving normalization has not been as rapid as it was earlier because of Islamabad's attitude on certain issues. He maintained that Pakistan is continuing with its nuclear weapons program. It is a matter of regret that nations opposed to proliferation are themselves assisting others in their nuclear program secretly, Mr Gandhi said.

Addressing a special session of the Mauritius National Assembly, the prime minister described the South African people's battle as a battle of the entire humanity. He declared that India stands solidly behind them. He called for immediate mandatory sanctions against the Pretoria regime.

Later, the prime ministers of the two countries had a session of formal talks at which the international situation and measures to foster closer ties were discussed. Briefing newsmen about the talks, an official spokesman said several areas of increased bilateral cooperation were considered. The joint commission will examine these matters further. Two agreements for a credit of 5 crore rupees each to Mauritius were also signed yesterday. Certain measures have also been announced on behalf of India to help Mauritius. In New Delhi, a plot of land will be given to the Mauritius High Commission for constructing a building, and a helicopter will also be given to the country. An Indian cultural center named after Mrs India Gandhi will be set up in Mauritius.

Prime Minister Visits Mauritius 4-5 July

For AFP and Delhi coverage of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Mauritius, including reports on his speech to parliament and his call for the dismantling of air bases on Diego Garcia, see the Southern Africa section of the 7 July Middle East & Africa *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Breakaway Akali Dal Group Elects President

BK051608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] In Punjab, the delgate session of the breakaway group of Shiromani Akali Dal at Anandpur Sahib today elected Mr Parkash Singh Badal as president of the group. In a resolution the session called upon all the Panthic [community] organizations in the state unitedly to work for the implementation of Anandpur Sahib resolution. In another resolution, it rejected the report of various commissions so far set up under the Punjab accord.

Meanwhile, in Chandigarh senior Akali leaders have described the proceedings at Anandpur Saheb as illegal and violative of party constitution. In a separate statements they also criticized Mr Badal for his action. The leaders include senior state ministers, Mr Balwant Singh, Mr Basant Singh Khalsa, Mr Major Singh Uboke, Mr Harbhajan Singh Sandhu and the party's general secretary, Mr Manjit Singh Khera.

Barnala Condemns Group's Activities

BK060943 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] The Punjab chief minister and the Akali Dal president, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has accused the breakaway Akali group of destroying the Panthic [Sikh religious] unity and destabilizing the state.

Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today, Mr Barnala alleged that the meeting of the breakaway group at Anandpur Sahib yesterday was aimed at encouraging supporters of terrorism and separatism. He said the meeting will help in providing political cover to the heinous designs of foreign forces working to destabilize the country. He claimed that only 45 out of 440 delegates attended the meeting.

Punjab Chief on Land Transfer, Terrorist Arrests

BK071333 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] The chief ministers of Punjab and Haryana had separate meetings with Justice Desai in New Delhi today. Later, Mr Barnala told the All India Radio correspondent that he has not made any formal submission before Mr Desai as his appointment had already been rejected by the state government. He said he has conveyed this to Mr Desai during his informal meeting with him.

Under the modified terms of reference, Justice Desai has been asked by the Center to specify the 70,000 acres which are to be transferred from Punjab to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh. Mr Desai was told that while specifying these areas he can also consider the 45,000 acres which had been identified by the Venkataramaiah Commission. He was asked to keep in view the paramaters stipulated in the Punjab accord which provides for the transfer of land in lieu of Chandigarh. It may be recalled that the modification is based on a suggestion of the Punjab chief minister himself during his meeting with the prime minister last month. The transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab simultaneously with territories in lieu thereof to Haryana is to take place on the 15th of this month. Mr Desai has been urged to give his recommendations by the forenoon of that day.

Meanwhile, in an exclusive interview with our correspondent in New Delhi, Mr Barnala said that police and paramilitary forces in the state have been reorganized and deployed in a more effective manner to contain terrorism. He said this was showing good results and many hardcore terorists have either been killed or arrested; many of their hideouts have also been found. A number of persons harboring extremists have also been detained.

Outlaw Sikh Student Leader Arrested

BK051606 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] The Punjab police have arrested the convener of the All India Sikh Students Federation, Harinder Singh Kahlon. A proclaimed offender, Kahlon was carrying a reward of 1 lakh rupees for his arrest.

Further Reportage on Clashes in Punjab State

12 Killed; Hindus Flee to Haryana

BK041355 Hong Kong AFP in English 1337 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Excerpt] Amritsar, India, July 4 (AFP) — Twelve people have been killed in a state of shootings as Sikh separatist violence flared across the northern state of Punjab in the last 24 hours, police said. Five extremists went on a shooting spree through three villages in Amritsar District Friday afternoon, killing six people and injuring two children, police said. The killers used a car to move through Bikhiwind, Sarhali and Dyalpur Shabapur, all about 15 kilometres (ten miles) from this Sikh holy city, police said. The killers alighted from the vehicle to open fire, apparently at random. Two of the suspected Sikh extremists were shot dead by security froces while fleeing after killing the six.

The encounter between the attackers and the security forces took place at Mahluwal in Chawbal, about 30 kilometres (18 miles) from Amritsar, police said. Three other suspects escaped, but sten guns, a .303 rifle and an Indian Army hand grenade were recovered from a car they left behind, police added.

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported that a lawyer was shot dead by suspected militants in Faridkot District, south of here along the border with Pakistan. The agency did not give any more details.

Sixty-nine people have now been killed in separatist-related violence in the Punjab in the last two weeks, according to a tally of police reports.

Fatehbad was the first Punjab village from which Hindus began fleeing Sikh separatist violence three months ago. Some 50 families have reportedly fled Fatehbad to neighbouring Haryana State and the Indian capital New Delhi.

Federal Home Minister Buta Singh said Friday that 4,500 frightened Hindus have left the Punjab in recent months. A large number of security forces had been deployed in Fatehbad in a bid to stop the migration of Hindus, but reports from the village said those who remained were now considering leaving too.

Protest Lodged With DRA Envoy Over 2 Jul Shelling

BK080235 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Kabul administration forces on Wednesday [2 July] afternoon fired 47 rockets which fell on the (Shelman) region, 10 miles north of Landi Kotal in the Khyber Agency, resulting in the death of a woman. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office yesterday, and a strong protest was lodged with him on this unprovoked act.

Further Reportage on Visit of Japanese Official

Joint Commission Discusses Cooperation

BK031716 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] At a meeting in Islamabad this afternoon, the Pakistan-Japan joint commission discussed bilateral cooperation in the economic and technical fields. The commission expressed satisfaction with the increase in Pakistan's exports to Japan and considered ways and means to lessen the imbalance in Pakistan's trade with Japan. The Pakistani delegation thanked Japan for its positive assistance to Pakistan in its economic, industrial, and technical development. The two delegations held detailed discussions on cooperation in the field of science and technology. Pakistan appreciates the training facilities being provided by Japan on its soil to Pakistani scientists and technicians.

In the cultural field, Pakistan thanked Japan for its offer to improve and modernize a number of museums in Pakistan. Japan appreciates Pakistan's willingness to take part in an international exhibition on the Silk Highway to be held in Japan's ancient city of Nara in 1988.

Meets With President, Prime Minister

BK051610 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] The Japanese deputy foreign minister, Shinichi Yanai, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this afternoon and conveyed to him a message of greetings and good wishes from Japan's Prime Minister Nakasone. Yanai expressed satisfaction at Pakistan's successful progress in the economic and political fields and described his current visit and talks with Pakistani officials as beneficial and meaningful.

The Japanese deputy foreign minsiter also had an informal meeting with Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi this afternoon and extended congratulations from the government and the people of Japan for the successful restoration of democracy in Pakistan.

Shinichi Yanai extended an official invitation from the Japanese prime minister to Mohammad Khan Junejo to visit Japan any time next year. The invitation was accepted and the details of the visit will be finalized through diplomatic channels.

Government Urged To Halt Pro-Soviet Propaganda

GF071322 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 28 Jun 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Distribution of Pro-Soviet Literature"]

[Text] MaWlana Abdul Haq, National Assembly member from Baluchistan, while expressing his concern on the distribution of pro-Soviet literature in Baluchistan Province, has drawn the attention of the government to this and has asked them to take some effective steps to stop the literature from being distributed in the province. He said that the law and order situation was better.

The situation is better there because no cases of dacoity and bomb explosions, common in Sind and the NWFP [North-West Frontier Province], have been noticed in Baluchistan. The reason as explained by Mawlana Abdul Haq is that the Afghan border is not so close to the residential areas in Baluchistan as it is in NWFP. Moreover it would be difficult for a foreigner to carry out bomb explosions in this province.

Regarding bomb explosions and sabotage activities in the NWFP, it has been made abundantly clear that all this has been instigated by a superpower and the Kabul regime. Their agents are busy causing unrest in Pakistan and in sabotage activities. There is a possibility that some political parties and political personalities are also involved. Sabotage activities in the country are being carried out and directed in a systematic way from outside. The planning for creating unrest in the country is attuned to the view the people of the province concerned, their likes and dislikes, and their locations.

The federal government and the provincial government of Baluchistan should look into this. In order to cut short the hand of communism in the province it is necessary that religious elements and the clergy should become active and play a positive role in the region. The present situation in the country demands that the religious leaders shed their petty differences and unite on a single platform. The religious and political parties which support the ideology of Pakistan and Islam should work from one platform and fight the enemies of Islam and Pakistan. If the Islamic and religious groups join hands then they can easily deal with the unholy designs of supporters of communism and secularism and save the country and nation from the coming dangers.

Karachi Details Mujahidin Attacks, Casualties

BK070242 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] According to reports, the mujahidin in Afghanistan attacked a Soviet-Kabul forces' base west of Kabul in Ghowr Province and inflicted heavy loss of life.

In another clash in the Paktia region, nearly 70 Soviet-Kabul forces were killed.

The mujahidin also attacked a Soviet-Kabul forces' center south of Kabul causing heavy damage to life and property.

BANGLADESH

Martial Law To End After Presidential Polls

BK080228 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Exceprt] President Ershad has said he will maintain at any cost the confidence and faith reposed in him by the people in the recently-held parliamentary polls by electing majority members of parliament who support his policies and programs. He was addressing three separate mammoth public meetings at Sarail Upazail [subdistrict] in Brahmanbaria District and Burichang and Daudkandi Upazilas in Comilla District.

The president said the election to parliament has set in motion the process of transition to democracy. President Ershad said the suspended Constitution of the country prescribed for a presidential form of government and pointed out that according to the Constitution, the process of establishing a people's representative government can only be completed after holding the presidential polls. The president said that there are some legal requirements for lifting the martial law and that the members of Parliament will formulate modalities to remove the legal barriers for hastening the process of ending martial law.

SRI LANKA

Development Minister on New Ethnic Proposals

BK070318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] The Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, has proposed to improve upon his proposals to end the ethnic conflict in the island. According to the Sri Lankan rural industries development minister, Mr Thondaman, the president has assured that some of the Tamil suggestions for more powers will be favorably considered. Mr Thondaman, who is on a private visit to Madras, told PTI that Mr Jayewardene had indicated that the improvement upon the proposals would be based on the recommendations of the various political groups after the political parties' conference to be held on the 15th of this month in Colombo.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Tamil United Liberation Front are to hold talks with the external affairs minister, Mr Shiv Shanker, in New Delhi on the latest proposals of the Sri Lankan Government to end the ethnic issue. After the talks in New Delhi, the TULF Politburo will decide on participation in the Colombo political parties conference.

Continuing Reportage on Clashes With Tamils

8 'Militants' Killed in Batticaloa

BK051107 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, eight Tamil militants were killed in clashes with the security forces in Batticaloa yesterday. A joint operational command spokesman told our Colombo correspondent that a security force patrol was attacked by Tamil militants about 60 km north of Batticoloa. The forces pursued and fired at the militants destroying the three boats in which they were travel to cross a lagoon. Reports from Batticaloa say clashes between the security forces and the militants are continuing today at a place about 12 km south of Batticoloa.

'Terrorist' Activities in East

BK071154 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Excerpt] According to a report released from the Joint Operations Command, the terrorists are looting Tamils, Sinhala, and Muslim villagers in a desperate bid to obtain foodstuff. On the 3d of this month, (Battitiavu) in the Ampara District in the eastern Sri Lanka suffered such an attack by 10 armed terrorists who looted the entire village, including the cooperative, shops, post office, and the temple. Terrorists used kidnapped villagers who could converse in Sinhala for this job.

In Batticaloa, R.N. Chanadravati — a Sinhalese, the wife of a Tamil resident — was shot dead by terrorists on Saturday while negotiating [words indistinct] for help. Of the two lamppost killings reported from the Eastern Province last week, one was a retired teacher while the other was the owner of a cycle repair shop.

Security forces effectively repulsed a terrorist attack on the Makarni security forces camp on the Trincomalee-Batticaloa road in the early hours of yesterday morning. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that terrorists later blew up a part of the (Panchkarni) bridge to prevent civilian movement. This bridge is extensively used by the civilian population, and they are greatly inconvenienced by the terrorists' act. This is the only road linking Batticaloa District with Trincomalee.

Government troops discovered a terrorist base in Trincomalee on Saturday and destroyed it completely. Security sources said that information regarding the terrorist base was supplied by the public in the area. When the troops approached the base, terrorists fled leaving behind grenades and [words indistinct], electric detonators, (?medicine), and terrorist literature.

Bomb Blast in Tehran Injures At Least 37

LD080804 Tehran IRNA in English 0752 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — A 15-kg bomb planted by terrorists in a tea shop in one of Tehran's busy areas, Enqelab (revolution) Sq., exploded at 740 am local time (0410 GMT) injuring scores of people and causing damage. The bomb equipped with electric timing device, was planted inside the tea shop located in front of a bus station, caused explosion of a 50-kgs cooking gas tank of the shop, injuring at least 37. The injured have been taken to various hospitals in the capital, 13 of whom have been treated as outpatient and the remaining 24 have been hospitalised. The explosion, work of the agents of world imperialism, has destroyed three shops, damaged a public bus and several other buildings and shops in the range of 60 sq m. of the incident. Relief workers are in the area pulling possible victims out of the rubble.

Majlis Speaker Notes Importance of Military Equipment

LD071020 Tehran IRNA in English 1015 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 7, IRNA — Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani reiterated here Sunday the prime importance which should be attached to the issue of the Iraqi-imposed war. Speaking to a group of Imam Khomeyni's representatives to the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps and a number of other revolutionary organizations, Rafsanjani stressed that the Islamic forces of Iran should be well-equipped. Present political situation and circumstances deemed it necessary to bring the issue of the imposed war to a suitable point which necessitated extensive supply of equipment for the forces.

Praising the role of the revolutionary organizations in solving the most crucial problems of the country, Rafsanjani said that the most outstanding characteristics of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards was their devotion.

Larijani, Delegation Depart for Zimbabwe

LD080626 Tehran IRNA in English 0622 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — The Foreign Ministry Deputy for International and economic affairs, Mohammad Javad Larijani, left Tehran for Zimbabwe Monday morning heading a delegation. Commenting on the reason for his trip, Larijani referred to importance of the forthcoming non-aligned summit to be held in capital of Zimbabwe, Harare. During the meeting, he added, major world issues including crimes of the Pretoria regime, the U.S. aggression against Libya and Nicaragua will be discussed.

Reportage on Visit of Syrian Economy Minister

Arrives 4 Jul

LD041727 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] Muhammad al-Imadi, the Syrian minister of economy and foreign trade, accompanied by the minister of oil and mineral wealth and minister of industry, arrived in Tehran this afternoon. He is leading a high-ranking trade, economic, oil and industry delegation. He was welcomed at the airport by Commerce Minister Ja'fari.

The delegation from the fraternal country of Syria is to hold talks in Tehran during its stay with a number of cabinet ministers on expansion of bilateral economic ties. Talks will also be held on the memorandum of understanding signed between the two countries and its implementation. The delegation will then hold talks with Iranian officials on the possibility of the expansion of fresh cooperation between the two countries.

On his arrival at Mehrabad Airport, the Syrian minister of economy and foreign trade told our correspondent: I carry greetings from Hafiz al-Asad for Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution, and President Khamene'i. We hope to be able to study economic issues that contribute to the strengthening of economic foundations as well as our commercial base.

He added: We are prepared to study the issues raised by our Iranian brothers, particularly issues dealing with oil and commercial ties.

Concluding his remarks, he said that the development of the two countries' economic relations is exceedingly important. Having said that, we will review with our Iranian brothers bilateral cooperation in implementing various projects. We plan to fulfill the main objectives of this visit.

Joint Talks Begin

LD051322 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that at the first joint session of the ministers of oil, commerce and industries of Syria and the Islamic Republic of Iran held in Tehran this morning they discussed the means for implementation of oil, banking, financial, industrial and trade agreements between the two countries.

At the meeting, organized to expand industrial and economic cooperation and to appraise a previously signed memorandum of understanding between the two countries and its implementation, it was decided that a number of committees should be set up to analyze the above agreements, cooperation with the Housing and Urban Development Ministry and the Energy Ministry in order to implement development projects, cooperation with the grain organization of Iran for construction of silos throughout the country and further cooperation in technology, services and commerce during the 2-week visit to Iran by the high-ranking Syrian delegation. The conclusions reached by these committees will be discussed at the final session.

During the meeting the need to confront the imperialist plot to reduce oil prices, contrary to the interests of the petroleum-exporting countries, was also emphasized.

The same report adds that the Syrian delegation will be holding meetings with other Iranian authorities in the next few days.

Meets With Ministers of Mines, Industry

LD061808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] The minister of oil and mineral wealth of Syria and his entourage met and conferred with the minister of mines and metals, Ayatollahi, this evening. In the course of the meeting the question of common interests, including the training of experts, export of minerals, expansion of cooperation and making use of bilateral experiences in various mineral and industrial fields as well as the exchange of explorations [as heard], were discussed. Both sides expressed hope for the increased expansion of bilateral political and economic ties.

This afternoon the Syrian minister of industry met with our country's minister of industry, Shafe'i, at the latter's office. Ways of expanding bilateral economic relations to combat plots being hatched by global arrogance were discussed. It was then decided that the two countries' experts should consider joint cooperation on the production of raw materials for industrial units.

Received by Prime Minister

LD062203 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] The Syrian ministers of economy and foreign trade, industry, and oil and mineral wealth met with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi this evening. Commerce Minister Ja'fari and Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs Mo'ayeri also attended the meeting.

The Syrian minister of economy and foreign trade briefed the meeting on the progress of the joint commissions, and then expressed his gratitude for the understanding shown by the officials of the Islamic Republic toward Syria. Referring to the importance of bilateral relations in countering the economic sabotage perpetrated by the (?imperialists), he said: We are convinced that the current talks will have a positive impact on our relations as well as reducing the effects of the conspiracies hatched by the common enemies of our two countries.

Responding to the remarks, Prime Minister Musavi referred to the two countries' important strategic relations in countering the United States and the regime occupying Jerusalem. He emphasised: In order to counter the conspiracies of the common enemies of the Islamic Republic and Syria, cooperation and understanding between the two countries are imperative. The urgency of such cooperation is felt more than ever before under the present circumstances. Concluding his remarks, the prime minister expressed hope for the success of the joint commissions on trade, commerce, and oil.

Talks Termed 'Constructive'

LD071621 Tehran IRNA in English 1553 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 7, IRNA — Second round of talks between Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh and a visiting Syrian delegation were held here Monday. Discussed in the talks were ways to expand commercial and oil exchanges between the two countries. Iranian oil minister termed the talks 'constructive'.

Foreign Journalists Invited To Visit Mehran Area

LD041206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Jul 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report following the recent victories scored by Islam's combatants in the Mehran operational zone, the War Information Headquarters issued a statement asking all foreign correspondents who wish to visit the liberated Mehran areas to contact the General Department of Foreign Press of the Ministry of Islamic Guidance so that visits may be coordinated.

Gilan Province Sends Convoy to War Fronts

LD032239 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Dispatch by unidentified Central News Unit correspondent in Rasht 3 July — recorded]

[Text] The sixth Karbala' marchers' convoy from Gilan Province today departed from Rasht to the battlefronts of the imposed war. According to a Central News Unit report, the sixth Karbala' marchers' convoy is composed of one combat division, one company made up of clergymen, and the first Qa'em battalion of Gilan. The dispatched combatants and volunteers today marched through the streets of the city of Rasht and then the Karbala' convoy departed for the fronts of the imposed war to join other combatant brethren.

Simultaneous with the dispatch of the sixth Karbala' marchers' convoy of Gilan Province, the first stage of the huge relief convoy of 1,500 trucks from the Gilan Province -- called the martyrs of 7th Tir [28 June] -- consisting of 500 trucks of goods needed by the fronts, departed for the war fronts of our Islamic homeland.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Khatam ol-Anbiya' Communique

LD051805 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Jul 86

[Text] Communique No 9 issued by the Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ, the Center for the Joint Operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, tonight indicates that, in the continuation of the victorious "Karbala'-1" operations, the combatants of Islam today succeeded in dealing heavy blows to the enemy and inflicting considerable damage to the Zionist enemy in the course of their confrontations today.

The forces of Islam in their operations today attacked enemy positions and liberated two other strategic heights in the area. They have fully taken control of these heights and have occupied the 71st Armored Division's base. Our forces have dealt fatal blows to the 3d Brigade of the Presidential Guards and 71st

Brigade of the 35th Division of the Iraqi forces. The combatants of Islam succeeded in killing or wounding 700 enemy soldiers and captured another 100 in this battle. Three tanks and three command vehicles were also taken by the forces of Islam undamaged.

Last night, the artillery fire of our forces set fire to an enemy munition and supply center where hundreds of thousands of field gun and Katyusha shells were stored in an area 1.5 km wide. The smoke coming from the fire and explosions covered the area for hours.

The communique indicates that the combatants of Islam, while fortifying and establishing the positions they have newly taken, are now firing on the enemy positions and observing all their moves and activities.

Iraqi Positions Bombed

LD061041 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 6, IRNA — Iranian air force fighter-bombers raided Iraqi concentration centers and remaining positions in Mehran operational theatre, 160 kms east of Baghdad and inside the Iraqi territory Sunday.

Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic said that during the attack at 08:45 hours local time (0551 hours GMT) heavy casualties were inflicted on Iraqi troops. The report (?states) that all the jet fighters participating in the mission returned to their bases safely.

Communique No 2,523

LD061729 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 6 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 6, IRNA — Iraqi troops were bombed by Iranian jet fighters west of the Iranian city of Mehran inside Iraq at 0845 hours Sunday, said a military communique here. Joint Staff communique Number 2523 said that the fighters after successfully carrying out the mission returned safely to their bases.

Muslim forces of Iran smashed two Iraqi counteroffensives launched by two brigades of Iraq's 35th Division in Qalavizan Heights Saturday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on them. The attacking enemy troops fled the scene, the communique said.

An enemy munitions depot near the Iraqi city of Badrah was hit and set ablaze by Iranian artillery fire Saturday, said the communique, adding that columns of smoke were seen welling into the sky and the boom of explosions was heard for several hours after the depot was hit.

The communique said that at least 50 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded when Iranian patrol-combat units safely traversed across numerous Iraqi mine fields and barbed wire to attack enemy positions in a southern front Saturday. The communique said that at least 15 enemy gun emplacements and observation posts as well as one heavy machine-gun were also destroyed in the ambush.

A number of Iraqi forces were killed or wounded and three munitions dumps as well as several gun emplacements of theirs demolished in Hajj 'Umran Saturday as their positions were shelled by Iranian forces, according to the communique.

Elsewhere, Iranian Gendarmerie forces pounded Iraqi positions in Bayat and in Zobeydah, southern fronts, saturday killing or wounding at least 10 Iraqi soldiers and demolishing two vehicles and five gun emplacements. They also restricted Iraqi engineering operations as well as movements of their supply vehicles.

In the southern fronts, several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and two enemy trucks destroyed as Iranian forces shelled their positions Saturday.

The joint staff Communique said that Iranian artillery fire inflicted damage to convoys of Iraqi tanks in Marivan and Panjwin, northwestern fronts, Saturday. The Iraqi fire was also silenced.

Movements of Iraqi vehicles and of enemy armoured units in Helaleh, Faqqeh, Chazzabeh, and in Nahre-Anbar were checked by Iranian Muslim forces Saturday and Sunday, said the communique.

'Full Control' of 27 Heights

LD071510 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Mehran, July 7, IRNA — Some 250 square kilometers of Iranian territory was liberated and full control gained of 27 heights in Mehran region by Iranian forces in the "Karbala'-1" operations launched June 30, a military commander told IRNA here Monday.

In the western Iranian border city of Mehran, eight villages in the region and five border outposts were also liberated during the operations, the commander said. He said that the Muslim combatants of Iran have fortified their positions on the Iraqi Qalavizan Heights and now have full control of the Iraqi city of Badrah. They are also checking enemy movements in the region.

A total of 6,800 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and 1,300 others including NCO's and officiers taken captive in the course of the Iranian Karbala-one operations.

The military commander furthermore said that the Muslim forces of Iran have so far achieved all the pre-determined targets of the operations.

Heavy Iraqi Losses in Mehran

LD071702 Tehran IRNA in English 1659 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 7, IRNA — Iraqi forces sustained heavy losses and casualties in Mehran operational region as they were hit by Iranian artillery fire, informed military sources said here Monday. The sources said Iranian combatants are now stationed in all captured positions in the region and that they continue to smash all Iraqi movements.

Communique No 2,524

LD071721 Tehran IRNA in English 1703 GMT 7 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 7, IRNA — At least 20 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and one machine-gun, two munitions dumps, five bunkers, one command jeep and one heavy vehicle of theirs set ablaze in Bayat and Zobeydah, southern fronts, Sunday as their positions were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces, said a military communique Monday.

Joint staff communique number 2524 said that several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several munitions dumps and gun emplacements as well as three bunkers of theirs destroyed as Iranian Muslim combatants shelled their positions in the north-western fronts Sunday.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in the western fronts Sunday raging somewhat more heavily in Mehran as a result of which several Iraqi artillery pieces, one mortar launcher, two vehicles, four observation posts and one munitions dump were demolished, the communique said.

In the southern fronts, the communique said, one Iraqi munitions dump was hit and destroyed by Iranian artillery fire. Iranian forces also prevented enemy troops from carrying out tactical operations in these fronts. Iraqi tank fire was silenced and enemy troops sustained heavy casualties and losses in Kushk Sunday as their positions were hit by Iranian artillery fire, according to the communique. In Majnun Islands, southern fronts, the communique said, an Iranian patrol unit inflicted substantial casualties and losses on Iraqi forces and safely returned to its base.

An Iraqi unit trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sumar, western fronts, Sunday sustained casualties and was forced to flee as it was hit by Iranian artillery fire, said the communique. Meanwhile, Iraqi long-range artillery fire on Abadan, Khuzestan Province Sunday caused some damage to the city.

Further Advances in Mehran Area

LD080857 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0847 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention, dear listeners,please pay attention. The combatants of the army of monotheism these wayfarers of Hoseyn's Karbala', following the victorious "Karbala'-1" operations succeeded in advancing inside Iraqi territory in the area facing the Mehran operational theater in the early hours of this morning. They have gained new victories for the ummah of Islam. As soon as the reports from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters are available we will inform you, the heroic nation, of the details of these operations.

Troops Advance Toward Badrah

LD080930 Tehran IRNA in English 0921 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Mehran, July 8, IRNA — More than thirty sq. kms. of Iraqi territory were liberated during an assault of the Iranian troops in Mehran region early on Tuesday. During the operations the heights No. 223 came under complete control of Islamic combatants.

Hundreds of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded during the assault, continuation of the "Karbala'-1" operations launched June 30. The headquarters of 71st Brigade and tactical base of the Second Army of Iraq were taken over by Islamic defenders.

150 Iraqis were also captured during these operations including deputy commander of the 71st Brigade and several battalion commanders with colonel ranks. [Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 0909 GMT on 8 July in a similar report adds: "Our powerful forces are at present surrounding an Iraqi battalion and a heavy battle is in progress in order to smash the remaining resistance put up by the defeated enemy forces. The forces of Islam have the upper hand."]

Islamic combatants of Iran are stationed 14 kms. from Iraq city of Badrah.

Two Iraqi Brigades Destroyed

LD080945 Tehran IRNA in English 0936 GMT 9 Jul 86

[Text] Mehran, July 8, IRNA — In the latest Iranian offensive launched Tuesday morning, Iraqi brigades 93 and 113 were totally smashed and more than 1,000 enemy forces were killed or injured, the latest reports from the area said.

The Islamic forces of Iran have now liberated some 40 kms of the Iraqi territory.

The Islamic combatants launched the offensive early Tuesday morning to take control of the enemy positions inside Iraq, to cut off the Iraqi communications and supply lines and to check enemy troop transportation in the area, including the strategic Badrah-Baghdad road laying in front of the Mehran operational area.

Iraqi Communications 'Disrupted'

LD080953 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0925 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] According to the latest report received from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ, the powerful combatants of the army of Islam, in the continuation of the victorious "Karbala'-1" operations, have succeeded in completely annihilating all enemy forces in the region beyond the general Mehran area, inside Iraq.

The organization of and communication between Iraqi units have been completely disrupted. Brigadier General Zi'addin Tawfiq, the commander of the 17th Division of Iraq, who was in charge of the Iraqi forces stationed in the region, has fled and communications between enemy battalions and the command base of the Iraqi Ba'thist forces have been completely severed. The forces under the command of this base are utterly confused at present. Also, according to the latest reports, two deputy commanders of

the brigades stationed in the region have been killed by the forces of Islam. Their bodies were left in the operational theater.

1,500 Iraqi Casualties

LD081003 Tehran IRNA in English 0958 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ., July 8, IRNA — In Tuesday's Iranian offensive, launched by the Seyyed ol-Shohada Division of Karaj, some 1,500 Iraqi troops have been killed or injured. More than 100 Iraqis have been taken captive. In the fighting, 20 tanks and personnel carriers were destroyed, eight others seized and hundreds set ablaze.

Additional Iraqi Brigade Destroyed

LD081055 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Excerpts] Mehran, July 8, IRNA — Major General Zi'addin Tawfiq, commander of Iraq's 17th Division in Mehran region, 160 kms east of Baghdad, has fled the battle scene after the latest round of fighting, Khatam ol-Anbiya' military headquarters said. Iraq's 72d Brigade has been totally destroyed in the fighting.

Air Force Bombs Iraqi Positions

LD081059 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports that the pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran heavily bombed the concentration points and positions of the aggressive Iraqi forces in the Mehran operational theater at 0825 [0455 GMT] this morning. After inflicting considerable damage and casualties on the Zionist enemy, they safely returned to base.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' Communique

LD081135 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jul 86

[Communique No 10 of the Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ, the Center of the Joint Operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, issued 8 July — read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Obrave ummah of Islam, O combative and God-seeking nation of Iran: Your self-sacrificing offspring, those wayfarers of the holy shrine of Husayn, this morning in order to gain complete control over enemy positions inside Iraq and the communication and supply roads of the Iraqi Army and keep under observation all the movements and deployments of the forces of the Baghdad regime in the operational theater and on the strategic Badrah-Baghdad road, opposite the general Mehran sector, began an operation. They attacked enemy positions beyond the "Karbala'-1" operational theater. During a heavy battle they liberated three important heights in the sector, including Height 223, which plays a key role in the sector and brought more than 40 square km of Iraqi soil under their control. Thus, since the start of "Karbala'-1" operation, nearly 300 square km have been liberated in the area.

During the operation, the mighty combatants of Islam and the brave personnel of the 10th Seyyed ol-Shohada Division of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Tehran from Karaj, completely destroyed the 93d, 113th, 71st and 72d Brigades of the Iraqi Army and captured the HQ of the 93d and 71st brigades and the tactical HQ of Iraq's Second Corps.

During the operation, the forces of Islam killed or injured more than 2,000 enemy troops and captured several others, 155 of which have so far been transferred behind the lines. Two high-ranking Iraqi officers, who had had the rank of brigade deputy commander, were among the dead.

The deputy commander of the 71st Brigade and four commanders of Iraqi battalions are among the POW's who have been transferred behind the lines so far.

During the operation, the combatants of Islam completely destroyed all enemy forces stationed in the sector and shattered the organization and communication of the Iraqi units. At present, communication between enemy units and the high command HQ of the Ba'thist Iraqi forces in the sector has been completely severed. Considering the desertion of Brigadier General Zi'addin Tawfiq, the commander of the Iraqi 17th Division, who had commanded the Iraqi forces stationed in the sector, the Iraqi forces are totally confused. Several times today, the enemy brought several km of his own positions under fire.

Also, 20 enemy tanks and personnel carriers were destroyed and 8 tanks and personnel carriers were captured intact by the forces of Islam. Hundreds of vehicles and assorted armored weapons and equipment were also burned and destroyed by the forces of Islam. An ammunition dump, containing large quantities of artillery and Katyusha shells was burned in the area between Badrah and Zurbatiyah towns in Iraq. Following the explosion of the ammunition inside the dump, extensive fires started, the smoke of which covered the area for hours.

The mighty combatants of Islam are now strengthening the captured positions and crushing every enemy movement with complete superiority.

[Signed] The Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ